Friendship 1990 Property of Graduate Theological Union SHIHLIN O **TAIWAN** R. O. C. YOUNG CHRISTIANS AT HSIN CHU CHIAYI TAINAN CHIADING KANGSHAN KAOHSIUNG PINGTUNG

BISHOP'S MESSAGE

In response to the Decade of Evangelism, our Diocese recently held two seminars, one in the north, the other in the south, open to all who were interested. We felt that reflections from the grassroots level would be more realistic. The reality we face today in Taiwan is as follows: all the mainline Churches which came over with the Government from Mainland China are declining in numbers, with only one out of a hundred of the total population attending Sunday service. Why is our Church also declining? The lack of a consistent diocesan policy on Church development, as most people complained, is the main cause. A lay reader gave the results of his recent thorough research: based on what we have now, if each member were willing and able to bring one friend or relative to the Church every year, then in ten years' time our Church's number of Sunday attendants would be 512,000. Of course, that supposes that no-one died, lapsed or emigrated. This is rather optimistic. Supposing that each church member were willing and able to bring one friend in 2 years. then the number in ten years' time would be 28,702. If we are much less optimistic still, and suppose each member to be willing and able to bring one person in 4 years, the Sunday attendance would reach 4,651. Though this is far too mathematical, it could be helpful in setting a Church target for the next ten years. But I think the whole issue is not one only of our people's will and ability: it is also concerned with the message we preach and the Church through which that message is transmitted.

People's will and ability to evangelise is a matter of Christian education. The conclusion reached by both seminars was similar to what the Bishop of Rio Grande said in 'Episcopal Life': "Very often we Episcopalians do not evangelise because, deep down, we know we have nothing to give." From this perspective, we have proposed having adult Sunday School, Sunday systematic teaching of the Christian faith and a lay extension training course. This year we promoted Bible reading. The coming year will focus on personal prayer. Both Bible reading and prayer are essential for evangelism. Quoting Bishop Kelshaw again, "We will know God in exact proportion to the amount of time we spend in his presence. One thing I find especially tragic is how little time we, especially us men, spend in the presence of God. We meet God on the run. You'll never know how to lead people to Christ until you spend precious time in the presence of Jesus Christ." In 1988, the General Convention gave us a mandate: Let the Episcopal Church become an educated Church. This is very pertinent.

The second issue is why the message we preach does not get across. Sometimes it is not just a matter of the approach. What kind of message are we going to give? Is it meaningful to people here in Taiwan? How does Christianity speak to the problems people are facing here today? For instance, on December 8, an ecumenical service of peace was held, commemorating the events of February 28, 43 years ago, when many people were massacred, this being the cause of disharmony today between local people and those who came to Taiwan with the Government at that time. The Christian message of peace resulting from reconciliation by God's love through Jesus Christ is a very appropriate one for all the inhabitants of this island. That peace is our real hope.

Another issue in regard to evangelism is that of the churches which transmit the message. We need to consider whether the pattern of Anglican worship is suitable for all age groups, especially the young people. How is the Anglican tradition to be made meaningful to people in Taiwan today? Have the Anglican traditions been uncritically imported to Taiwan? How can we replace "maintenance mentality" with mission orientation?

Entering the Decade of Evangelism is not just a case of slogan-shouting. It needs to be very realistic and practical. May God give us wisdom to know how to proceed. Amen.

+ John Clien

A YEAR'S CONFERENCES

October (1989) C.C.E.A.

Representatives of a number of our Partners in Mission came to Taiwan for the PIM evaluation committee meeting from October 17 to 19. This was followed by the annual C.C.E.A. Bishops' Meeting. Seventeen East Asian bishops met at the Roman Catholic retreat house at Tamsui and their discussions dealt mainly with the prospects of forming new provinces in this area. The Philippines did in fact become a province in May and Korea hopes to follow soon. A joint province was suggested for Singapore-West Malaysia, while Hong Kong intended to become a separate province. It seemed that Taiwan might have to remain as a diocese of ECUSA for the foreseeable future, particularly as our numbers have suffered from the current rate of emigration of Taiwan citizens, our church people among them, to the USA, Australia and New Zealand in particular.

Plans were also made for an Anglican Youth Conference for S. E. Asia, but no firm date has yet been set.

The bishops visited our technical college and were favourably impressed with it. Some of them attended each of the Cathedral, Good Shepherd Church and St. James', Taichung, for the Sunday morning service. The day ended with a tour of the National Palace Museum and a farewell dinner at the Museum restaurant.

January Theological Commission

The undertaking of the C.C.E.A. Theological Commission for its term of three years has been to identify, explore and work on issues that affect or are pertinent to this region, revolving around the question of authority in the Church (ordination, etc.) and the mission and ministry of the Church, including the ministry of the laity, the charismatic movement and parish renewal.

In January the Commission met in Full Consultation, with the PIM coordinator and six invited resource persons. The mixture of bishops, clergy, theological educators and lay people helped to keep discussions down to earth and relevant to parish life, while at the same time preventing them, by adequate theological input, from being dominated by personal opinions and feelings.

In part of a statement prepared for them by the Commission and accepted at a later meeting, the bishops of the C.C.E.A.

"urge our churches to be renewed, motivated, empowered and guided by the Word and Spirit of God in order to move out from those 'shadows' of our past which have hindered or are hindering us from discerning, understanding and exercising our God-given authority, and to move forward with a transformed and restored vision of God's mission and ministry of salvation, loving, serving, sharing and reconciling in our region."

February Convocation

This year's Convocation, held at Peitou, was hosted by Good Shepherd Church, where the opening Eucharist was celebrated on February 3. The principal items dealt with that evening and the following day concerned the canons and constitution. This convocation differed from previous ones in that overhead slide projection was used, to explain to the delegates the organisational set-up of the diocese and proposed amendments. A revision of this organisation was then passed, simplifying it and changing the former Council of Advice to a regular Standing Committee. Provision was also made for a clergy pension scheme, and a new committee was proposed to initiate church development.

Our clergy met at St. Paul's Centre (Roman Catholic) in Hualien to discuss the Mission Imperatives, according to the aims of which all our future projects must be identified and funding requests made.

At the beginning of this year, we received from the Episcopal Church Center in New York a list of eight 'imperatives' on which it is now basing its stewardship of the funds available to it for distribution. To improve stewardship in the recipients as well, these same imperatives are to be the basis of all requests from the dioceses for financial assistance. Individual Christians, as well as church groups, may find it a good discipline to consider their own stewardship of money, time and talents as measured by these aims, which are:

- I. Inspire others by serving them and leading them to seek, follow and serve Jesus Christ through membership in his Church.
- II. Develop and promote educational systems and resources which support the ministry of the people of God.
- III. Strengthen and affirm the partnership of the Episcopal Church within the Anglican Communion in proclaiming and serving God's kingdom throughout the world.
- IV. Communicate in a compelling way the work of the Church in response to the Gospel.
- V. Strive for justice and peace among all people and respect the dignity of every human being.
- VI. Act in faithful stewardship in response to the biblical teaching of the right use of God's creation.
- VII. Support individuals and families in their struggle for wholeness by knowing and living the values of the Gospel.
- VIII. Commit ourselves to the unity of the Church and of all God's people.

Other topics discussed at the clergy meeting were strategies for the small church and the sharing of a discipleship training programme amongst our clergy. There was also a session on the correct movements and gestures of the Liturgy and their symbolism.

World Council of Churches Group

Also in April, the Presbyterian Church hosted a visit of the Asia Regional Group of W.C.C. This was organised 'to consider significant issues in the life of the people and churches in Asia and to identify priorities, and also to screen projects.' Bishop Chien was asked to lead the meeting in the opening worship service.

May C.C.E.A. Regional Exposure Programme and Consultation

"Despite the constant call of Partners in Mission to involve local parishes and congregations, there is very little evidence that such progress is happening in the dioceses."

This statement from the 1983 Consultation of the Council of the Church in East Asia with its Partners in Mission was followed in 1985 by another:

"The proper sharing of human resources is seen as one of the best ways to promote partnership in mission."

To act on this advice, the 1990 Regional Consultation was preceded by a week of exchange visits by the delegates, for exposure to the cultural, socio-political and religious situation of the various churches, so that ordinary church folk might gain a deeper understanding of the mission of the Church in our region, discover how each diocese could more effectively participate in that mission, and search for viable partnership activities that the region could undertake.



For this programme, the Rev. David Lai and Dr. Andrew Chang were shown around churches and schools in the Philippines, while we welcomed six Filipino delegates to tour our diocese. On the Sunday, after attending the English service at the Cathedral, four of our visitors spent the day with Filipino members of that congregation. This was a very valuable time, especially for the hosts, who were able to share their problems with and receive counsel and encouragement from their compatriots.

C.C.E.A. Regional Consultation in Manila

Asked for their impressions of Taiwan, our guests made many comments which included:

"I noticed that there are good ecumenical relationships, also between Christians and non-christians. I appreciate the relationship between Church and Government in terms of developing and assisting their own people. But it would be good if the Church could begin to consider more the pastoral needs of the Filipino community. Of course, there is a language barrier. I saw that highly advanced educational opportunities are offered to young people. I hope we may be able to have a church-to-church exchange programme, to give more young people the chance to benefit from sharing experiences." (Rev. George Fetiza)

"I have been so impressed, especially with the activities of the Episcopal Church, its management, the facilities which all the churches have, their beautiful, well built and well equipped buildings, and the very accommodating and hospitable priests and lay people. I am so happy to know that the women of the Church are active and supportive of the clergy as partners in mission, as in the Philippines. I would like to suggest that there be more such exposure programmes in the future and that there should be an exchange of human resources, not just theological resources, amongst our East Asian churches. A Filipino priest, for example, would be better able to search out our members in Taiwan who are not coming to church." (Mrs. Dolores Aligayen, teacher)

"I do have a concern for the many Filipino people hired illegally to work in Taiwan. I hope that all the East Asian Churches, working together with the Church in Taiwan, may be able to do something to make the position of these people legal." (Rev. Venancio Tenorio)

"I observed that the parishes and missions we visited have strong kindergarten programmes and excellent facilities; also that the enrolments range from 250 to 400. I noticed that the Church in Taiwan is centred on urban areas and that the church buildings are all permanent concrete structures; also that every clergyman we visited has his own car." (Rev. Juanito Layag, Rural Dean in Besao)

"I was struck by the difficulty of converting all these non-christians. I was surprised to learn that only 10% of both staff and students in the Church institutions are Christians. Of course, in the Philippines the teaching of religion is a compulsory part of the curriculum of every school, so this makes a big difference. I did not realise that religion can not be taught in school time here. We all appreciate very much the financial help given by the people of this diocese to our Church in the Philippines." (Mrs. Espirita Pis-o, lay evangelist and kindergarten teacher)

"I have found the programme very educational, interesting and exciting. (The

excitement was because of the rather riotous political demonstration near their hotel on their last day.) I have discovered that what is being said in the Philippines about Taiwan's progress as a highly industrialised place is really true, so much so that the majority of people are now living above normal standards and many quite luxuriously. However, as in any capitalist country where there is freedom, the same problems exist — those of corruption, prostitution and so on — though on a minimal scale. Thus, on our last day, we saw that these effects of such a social system are already beginning to show themselves. I hope that this may not get worse but may be corrected while it is yet controllable." (Mr. Ordiales, retired lawyer)

Our delegate Dr. Chang is the Principal of St. John's and St. Mary's Institute of Technology. His main impression of the Philippines, from the point of view of education, was that a great deal of exchange could be initiated, between S.J.S.M.I.T. and Trinity College (for liberal arts) in Manila, of both staff and students. He is making an initial exploration of the possibilities, as he feels there is great potential for contribution from both sides. In Mindanao in the south, Dr. Chang saw some Episcopal high schools which really impressed him with their good work in Christian education. "Their belief and faith in Christ," he said, "is something we can learn. With very limited resources they continue their work of Christian education with such fervour!" He thought our students in Taiwan could be encouraged to go and help these schools with voluntary work.

All the delegates assembled in Manila to share observations and ideas and then joined the bishops of the region for the Consultation from June 1 to 3.

August Anglican Conference on Theology, Education and Mission



The Chinese delegates

About thirty people. two-thirds of them Episcopal theologians from the U.S.A., met in Hong Kong for two weeks to study issues and problems in East Asia. Representatives from Korea, Kong, Taiwan, the Hong Philippines and Malaysia, including Dr. Wang Hsien-Chih. gave addresses on theological subjects such as A Malaysian Prophetic Christology, Homeland Theology and Miniung Theology and on more general

topics, including The Church and the Minority Groups in China, Hong Kong and 1997, and Christ and Culture – Anglican Ethos. Bishops of the participating dioceses presented situational reports, and bible studies and workshops gave opportunities for assimilation of and reflection on many new ideas.

September House of Bishops, ECUSA

The annual meeting of ECUSA House of Bishops took place this year in Washington D.C. from September 14 to 20.

On the first day, the overseas bishops met with the Presiding Bishop and representatives of World Mission and learned from them their plans for the overseas dioceses to become independent over the next few years.

Amongst the concerns discussed by the full House, that which particularly struck Bishop Chien was the stress placed on the need to revitalise the role of the bishop as teacher. Teaching, it was agreed, was just as important as presiding at the Eucharist. Bishop Chien

found this helpful. He has for some time been concerned that when he goes round our churches he is always asked to preach and thus rarely has the chance to hear a sermon. This new discovery, of the bishop's role as chief teacher, has given him a new perspective on the situation.

One day of the meeting was spent at Congress. The American bishops met their representatives there, since the bishops need to be concerned with the making of decisions that will affect their people and to get to know the process of decision-making in Congress and the system of American government. Meanwhile, Bishop Chien attended a Congress session on public health. His resulting impression is that the U.S.A. has big problems and is not as wealthy as many people think.

Washington D.C. was chosen because this was Consecration Year for the National Cathedral there, celebrating its completion after many years. It was begun in 1907, which is the only other year in which the House of Bishops has met in that city. The special service in the Cathedral on Sunday 16 included the reaffirmation of ordination vows for the bishops, who were then joined by the congregation in renewing the baptismal covenant.

ACTIVITIES WITH OTHER CHURCHES AND FAITHS

On October 16 (1989), four delegates including Bishop Chien represented our Church at a seminar on The Quality of Life, sponsored by the Ecumenical Cooperative Committee. In the morning, Dr. Ambrogi, from ECUSA's Stanford University in California, spoke on the value of the earth and our responsibility for its development and management. He commented on "economic growth at the expense of polluting the environment", which has been very serious in Taiwan. To avoid this, he said, attention must be paid to the value of people and not just the gross national product.

In the afternoon, Dr. Donna Ambrogi, wife of the first speaker, gave a lecture on "Old Folk and Public Policy". She pointed out that in the future old folk would make up a higher proportion of the population and would need to be cared for by the society. In planning for this, she said, consideration needs to be given to four aspects: respect for the individual person, public financial assistance for the elderly, health care, and the effects of the generation gap on traditional ways of looking after the aged.

A Jesuit priest, Fr. Chang Shwen Shen, gave three talks at our clergy meeting in December (1989). These were on Lay People and the Liturgy, The Church and Social Concern, and The Spirituality of Clergymen.

Mrs. Grace Chien was the organist for an ecumenical prayer meeting in March in one of Taipei's Lutheran churches. Approximately one hundred people, including Dean Michael Liu and a group from the Cathedral Women's Fellowship, attended the service, at which Bishop Chien was invited to lead prayers for the Year 2000 Gospel Movement.

An important meeting was held on March 14, when members of the R.O.C. Government met with more than one hundred leaders of Christian churches and other religious bodies to discuss various aspects of a proposed law dealing with all religion in Taiwan. The main aim of the Government in this move is said to be to assist the development of religion, which may help to counter current tendencies towards increased crime and other social problems.

Immediately after the C.C.E.A. meeting, Bishop Chien remained in Manila to represent the Ecumenical Cooperative Committee of Taiwan at the 9th General Assembly of the Christian Conference of Asia. Its theme was "Christ our Peace: Building a Just Society". The daily worship service was very inspiring, with special Asian music to express concern for social issues. For studies and discussions, delegates separated into groups, of which Bishop Chien took part in one on Evangelism. The Rev. Dr. Wang Hsien-Chih also attended as a theological resource person.

OVERSEAS EVENTS

Bishop Chien accepted an invitation to visit Singapore in November (1989) to preach at their Convocation Service and also at an ordination.

In May, the Philippine Episcopal Church became a separate province. At the inauguration service, during which Bishop Richard Abellon was installed as their first Primate, Bishop Chien presented a brass vase from our diocese, to be used in one of their new churches. While in Manila, he also preached at St. Stephen's Church.

On the way to Washington D.C., Bishop Chien called in at Toronto, where he visited Canon Edmund B. Der and also met the Primate and other bishops. He was very glad of this chance to make personal contact with the Church in Canada, which he considers important for our diocese.

The consecration of the Venerable
Yong Ping Chung as the new Bishop of Sabah,
by the Archbishop of Canterbury, took place
on September 25. Since Bishop Chien was
then on his way back from the U.S.A., Dean
Michael Liu represented him at the celebrations. Also present from Taiwan was the Rev.
David Chee, who had just attended a meeting in Kota Kinabalu.



The Primate of Canada, Bishop Michael Peers, with Bishop Chien in Toronto.

STUDIES HERE AND ABROAD

The three courses currently being given at **Trinity Hall** are Introduction to the N.T. (Rev. Matthew Lee), Philosophy of Religion (Rev. David Chee) and Church Music and Organ (Ms. Nancy Sartin). Another, on Isaiah, began in December with Dr. Richard Henshaw from Colgate Rochester Seminary in the U.S.A. Present courses have eight or nine students, including three women, but at the moment no student is working specifically towards ordination.

In February, the World Council of Churches sponsored a study tour of theological education in Asia. As part of this programme, the Ecumenical Council for Theological Education by Extension in the Philippines sent its executive director, the Reverend Isagani G. Fabito, to Taiwan "to share and learn from . . . experience in theological education." He had discussions with Fr. David Chee in Taipei and with Dr. Chang Te Hsiang and Dr. Wang Hsien Chih in Tainan.

The Rev. Samuel Lin and his wife Jane returned in August from their study year in Ireland, which was sponsored by the Dublin University Far Eastern Mission. Fr. Lin is most appreciative of his time in Dublin. He reported that his academic studies and his experience with the Church of Ireland had brought him fresh insights and spiritual renewal and given him a new perspective on his work as chaplain to our technical college staff and students.

We have similar hopes for Fr. Lin's assistant, Miss Lily Chang, who has been awarded an Amphlett scholarship to the Selly Oak Colleges in Birmingham, England. Miss Chang will take part in a three-month Spring programme beginning in January 1991.

Later in 1991 another of our clergy will be in England. The Church Missionary Society has generously agreed to sponsor the Rev. David Chee for study leave there, to concentrate on modern developments in theology and the liturgy.

In March we welcomed another priest-student from Malaysia. The Rev. Hwa Chih, a Malaysian-born Chinese, is a lecturer at the seminary in Kuala Lumpur. He also ministers at churches, mainly in English, but also in Mandarin in which he had had no formal training. He came to Taipei for three months' concentrated study of the language. His help to our diocese during this time was much appreciated: he assisted at the Cathedral, particularly with the English services, preached at Good Shepherd Church, and taught Greek to our Trinity Hall theological students. He returned to Malaysia on June 8.

SUMMER CAMPS

A Youth Camp for college students and others of this age group took place at Hsin Chu Nazarene Centre. This camp was an important 'first' in that the programme was a special

one worked out by the young people themselves. The result was both creative and inspiring. The attendance was not as high as had been hoped but the quality was certainly there. Topics for the three parts were Know the Anglican Church, A Theme for Living, and Nurturing One's Spirit.

Ku Kuan, a beautiful spot on the cross-island highway, was chosen for the Family Camp from August 16 to 18. More than one hundred adults and children took part in a programme of activities and studies centred on the topics The Bible and Life, Family Relationships, Money, and Recreation.



Bishop Chien and Mrs. Chien, on his right, with a group at the family camp

NEW PUBLICATIONS

For the last two years, Bishop Chien has been working to promote private bible-reading among church people in Taiwan. With the agreement of the Scripture Union in England, their quarterly "Alive to God" is being translated into Chinese by the Rev. Andrew Huang. This is a very helpful publication of 'Bible guidelines for living by the Spirit'. It has been welcomed by many people here but whether publication here can continue is not certain. Even with some members of other denominations using the booklet, fewer than 1000 copies are being sold, which, the publishers say, is not enough. Consideration is being given to selling advertising space to Christian concerns in Taiwan to subsidise sales.

This year a Diocesan Directory was published in Chinese. It contains most of the available information about the diocese and is aimed at helping people know more about their Church and developing a strong sense of belonging. Every Chinese church member received a copy.

THE CHURCH IN MAINLAND CHINA

Mr. George Clarke, of the Dublin University Far Eastern Mission, made an overnight stay in Taiwan on May 9 on his way to Mainland China. After a brief visit to Hualien on the east coast, he left for Hong Kong to join a group visiting the Church on the Mainland. On his return to Ireland, Mr. Clarke reported on "China After Tien An Men Square", commenting that, strangely, the Church did not seem to have been greatly affected by the pro-democracy protest. He wrote:

"It was my observation that the Church has at least as much freedom as it had four years ago. Christians are still guarded in their comments, but less so than they were. The State is still committed to the idea of religious freedom and openness. As yet this has by no means fully come about, but one accepts that the intention is there.

"Chinese Christianity is working patiently to establish credibility with the government and the nation and from what we could see it is succeeding. We were told by Bishop Ting, the acknowledged leader of the Chinese Christian Church, that the intellectual climate is now more favourable to Christianity than at any time since the communists took over in 1949. We also saw evidence of strong interest by young people. It is, however, realistic to remember that overall less than 1% of Chinese are Christians."

NEWS FROM THE ENGLISH CONGREGATIONS

Good Shepherd Church, Shihlin

After twelve years in Taiwan, two of the longest-standing members of Good Shepherd's English congregation are about to leave, on Boxing Day. The Rev. Dr. Graham Ogden's work with the United Bible Societies is taking him first to Singapore for two years and then back to Australia. He and Lois will be sorely missed, not only at Good Shepherd but in many sections of the community, both Chinese and expatriate. Graham's generous giving of his time, wisdom and care as Associate Priest has been valued by very many people, as have Lois's genuine interest in and kindness to all she meets. Their hospitality and spending of themselves for others give clear evidence of their dedication to our Lord. We who are in Taiwan at present and all who have known them here in the past will be wishing them a very happy and rewarding next stage in their journey. They go with our love and gratitude.

Almost two and a half years' search for an English Chaplain has at last been fruitful. The Reverend David Cobbett and his wife Alison are to arrive early in February 1991. As a young priest, Fr. Cobbett spent four years as a missionary in Korea, after which he married Alison at home in Australia and they returned to Korea for four more years. Fr. Cobbett has been well known in Melbourne and Adelaide dioceses as a builder-up of run-down parishes, and has been on the Australian Board of Missions for some years. He enjoys teaching, particularly the New Testament. Both Fr. Chee and the Western congregation will be very pleased to have a full-time chaplain at last. Mrs. Cobbett is a teacher and specialises in English as a Second Language. She and Fr. Cobbett hope to use their teaching skills to draw more people into the Church. Mrs. Cobbett will also look for part-time paid employment to help support their two youngest daughters, of five, at college in Adelaide. We look forward to having the Cobbetts as part of our Good Shepherd family.

Very good news announced to the vestry recently is that pledges, collections and other gifts, together with income from investments, have increased sufficiently to make the Correction The church has, in fact, been financially independent of its kindergarten for over three years now; however, the kindergarten continues to contribute in support of diocesan work.

Principal, Ms. Lai, who this year received a national award from the Government for her excellent work.

In the past, our donation to the annual Good Friday collection for the Church in Jerusalem has been quite meagre. There were two apparent reasons for this: because Good Friday is a normal working day here, very few people attend the service at which the collection is usually taken; also, so little news of the Middle East has reached Taiwan, apart from the recent Gulf crisis, that many of our parishioners did not appreciate the need for this special collection throughout the Anglican communion. Therefore, from information and photographs obtained from various sources, including Bishop Samir Kafity himself, a study programme was organised for this year. With readings and handouts on each of the first five Sundays in Lent and special envelopes which could be handed in at any time near Good Friday, our donation increased almost four times. It is to be hoped that future collections will also be better, particularly considering the extra difficulties for the Church in Jerusalem arising from the conflict over Kuwait and associated disturbances in Jerusalem and nearby.

St. James' Church, Taichung

Lay Reader Dr. Alan Haslup reports: The hope of having an English congregation at Saint James' was old when Gene Dugan arrived several years ago. Gene was a licensed Lay Reader in Texas and came to Taiwan in charge of a group from General Dynamics. In the early months of the congregation, started at his instigation, General Dynamics folks, whom we referred to as the G.D. people, made up the bulk of the worshippers. This year the aircraft on which they worked was completed and the last of the General Dynamics group left. Many of us felt as if the need for the English service was over. Surprisingly, our numbers have gradually increased and the service is obviously serving the need for a liturgical English worship service in this area. In a small congregation, one is naturally a participant rather than merely an observer. Small congregations, in fact, have a charm of their own. We have an ever-changing group, as is true of all international churches, and we welcome visitors to come and be a part of us for however long they are in Taiwan.

VISITORS

From October 24 to 28 (1989) we were pleased to welcome from the Episcopal Church Center Ms. Judith Gillespie, Executive Officer of World Mission in Church and Society, and our new Partnership Officer for Asia and the Pacific, the Rev. William Wipfler. On this their first visit to our diocese, they were taken to see the Taipei churches and the technical college at Hsinpu. Fr. Wipfler had to leave first, after which Ms. Gillespie journeyed by car to St. James' Church and kindergarten in Taichung.

Mr. Malcolm Warner, representative for East Asia of the Church Missionary Society, made his last trip to Taiwan in that capacity from October 27 to 29 (1989). While here he discussed with Bishop Chien future cooperation between our diocese and C.M.S. and also met with the search committee at Good Shepherd Church to see how C.M.S. might assist in finding chaplains for the Western congregation. Mr Warner retires at the end of this year. We are grateful for his interest and help in the past and wish him a very happy retirement.

On the first Sunday in Advent (1989), the preacher at the Chinese service at Good Shepherd Church was **Dr. Chung Chih Pang** from Singapore. Dr. Chung is the Principal of Trinity Theological College there and he spoke on Christians and Society.

The Rev. Canon David Dang, from Auckland, New Zealand, was in Kaohsiung on March 11. He came back in December for his daughter's wedding in St. John's Cathedral, Taipei.

On April 12, Mr. Victor Hsu and Rev. Franklin Woo, directors of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., met with members of the Ecumenical Cooperative Committee in Taipei. Their particular purpose was to discuss ways in which relationships between these two bodies might be strengthened.

NEW BUILDING

St. James' Church in Taichung is to have a new 8-storey building to provide a centre for their social services programme, kindergarten facilities and a new vicarage. The ground-breaking ceremony was held on April 1.

IN MEMORIAM

The Reverend Paul Denlinger passed away on November 15, 1989, after a period of illness. Fr. Denlinger worked for some years in Mainland China, then came to Taiwan in response to an invitation to teach at Tung Hai University and to work as a non-stipendiary priest in Taichung. There he founded St. James' Church. Later he helped for many years at St. John's Cathedral, Taipei, as associate priest with special concern for the English congregation. At the time of his death, Fr. Denlinger was on the staff of Soochow University in Shihlin. His wife, who is from Peking, still lives on the campus with their son, who has taken over some of his father's classes.

The Reverend William Hsia Yu Jen was for a long time a non-stipendiary priest here and, for several years, Principal of St. John's and St. Mary's Institute of Technology. He also published a number of articles on Christian topics. Fr. Hsia passed away on March 11.

In a most tragic accident in August, when a pleasure boat capsized on Sun Moon Lake, Sally Aylwin was one of the nearly forty lost. Sally was a friendly, helpful and generous member of Good Shepherd Church and of the wider community and is deeply mourned by very many people. Her husband Charles and their children have remained in Tien Mu for the time being.

CLERGY POSTINGS

In August, the Rev. Ou Chun-Shih returned to Taiwan for the funeral of his father. Because of our shortage of clergy, he was persuaded to come and work in this diocese again. He is now in charge of St. Mark's, Pingtung.

The present location of our other clergy is:

Fr. Matthew Lee — Holy Trinity, Keelung Fr. Samuel Lin — Advent Church, Hsinpu Fr. David Chee — Good Shepherd, Shihlin Fr. Luke Chen — St. Paul's, Kaohsiung Fr. Charles Chen — St. James', Taichung Deacon Peter Bow — St. Luke's, Hualien Fr. Jason Ke — St. Peter's, Chiayi — Canon Samuel Chen — St. Matthias', Neihu Fr. David Lai — Grace Church, Tainan Fr. Andrew Huang — St. Paul's, Kaohsiung Fr. Samuel Liao — St. Andrew's, Chiading Fr. Henry Pun — Leading Star, Taichung Fr. Stephen Hu — All Saints', Kangshan